

NSC BRIEFING


10 NOVEMBER 1955

MOLOTOV AND GERMANY

- I. Bluntness of Molotov's 8 November statement latest reflection of immovable Soviet position on German reunification.
 - A. Basic Soviet view made clear at Summit by Bulganin--German unity at this time impossible except through rapprochement of two Germanies.
 - B. Reflects also Moscow's confidence that time on Soviet side.
- II. Molotov was not trying to torpedo conference.
 - A. Good indication of this--his frantic resistance to Western efforts on 9 November to close off debate on agenda item one and his hasty disclosure further items for discussion.
- III. His aim rather to convince West Germans and other West Europeans that Western proposals unworkable and outdated by events of last two years.

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A. He hopes unequivocal rejection of Western plan may be followed by growing interest in compromise security plan based on divided Germany.

IV. Future Soviet conference tactics will be designed to divert attention from German stalemate.

A. Molotov probably will introduce new security proposals, ostensibly closer to those of West.

1. For example, on 9 November he revived Bulganin's Summit proposal for nonaggression treaty between NATO and Warsaw Pact powers. Also proposed to cut in half four-power forces in Germany.

B. He probably will put forward compromise proposals on disarmament and East-West contacts.

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V. Moscow is confident its rejection of Western proposals on Germany and European security will not jeopardize long-term effects of "spirit of Geneva" posture.

A. USSR anxious to maintain conference system, contacts with Western leaders. Will stress positive results of conference; probably will propose another meeting next year.

B. In meantime, Moscow prefers to maintain division of Germany from strategic viewpoint. Politically, it expects West German restiveness over failure to make progress toward unity will be focussed on Adenauer government and Western powers.